

REMARKS

The Advisory Action mailed March 26, 2003 (Paper 11) has been reviewed by the undersigned attorney and was discussed by telephone with Examiner Rice on April 1, 2003.

Claims 15-21 were indicated as rejected in the Advisory Action, but, in fact, those claims had already been allowed in the Office Action mailed January 6, 2003, and had never been rejected. Applicants appreciate the telephonic confirmation by Examiner Rice that these claims (Claims 15 - 21) remained allowable, despite the indication to the contrary in the Advisory Action to the extent that it indicated that Claims 15 - 21 were rejected.

Claims 7, 8 and 11 - 13 stand as rejected in the patent application and have been canceled by the present Amendment After Final, without disclaimer or prejudice to filing the same (or similar) claims in a divisional patent application.

Accordingly, it is urged that all of the claims presently pending in this patent application (including Claims 1 - 6, 9, 10 and 14 - 21) are allowable and patentably differentiate the present invention from the prior art of record.

Applicants and their attorney are interested in putting this patent application in condition for issuance and overcoming any remaining objection to the claims, especially since all the now-pending claims have been indicated as allowable. This would allow a patent to issue for this invention as soon as possible. If applicants' attorney can assist the Examiner in getting this application in condition for allowance of all claims, a collect call to the undersigned is authorized at the Examiner's convenience.

It is believed that the no fee for this paper is required, given that the number of total claims and the number of independent claims has not increased from the number of claims previously paid for (and, by the cancellation of claims, has actually decreased). However, if any additional fee is

due in connection with the filing of this Amendment After Final, including the fees for adding additional claims or for other patent application processing fees, the Patent Office is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 09-0452 in the name of IBM.

Respectfully submitted,
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